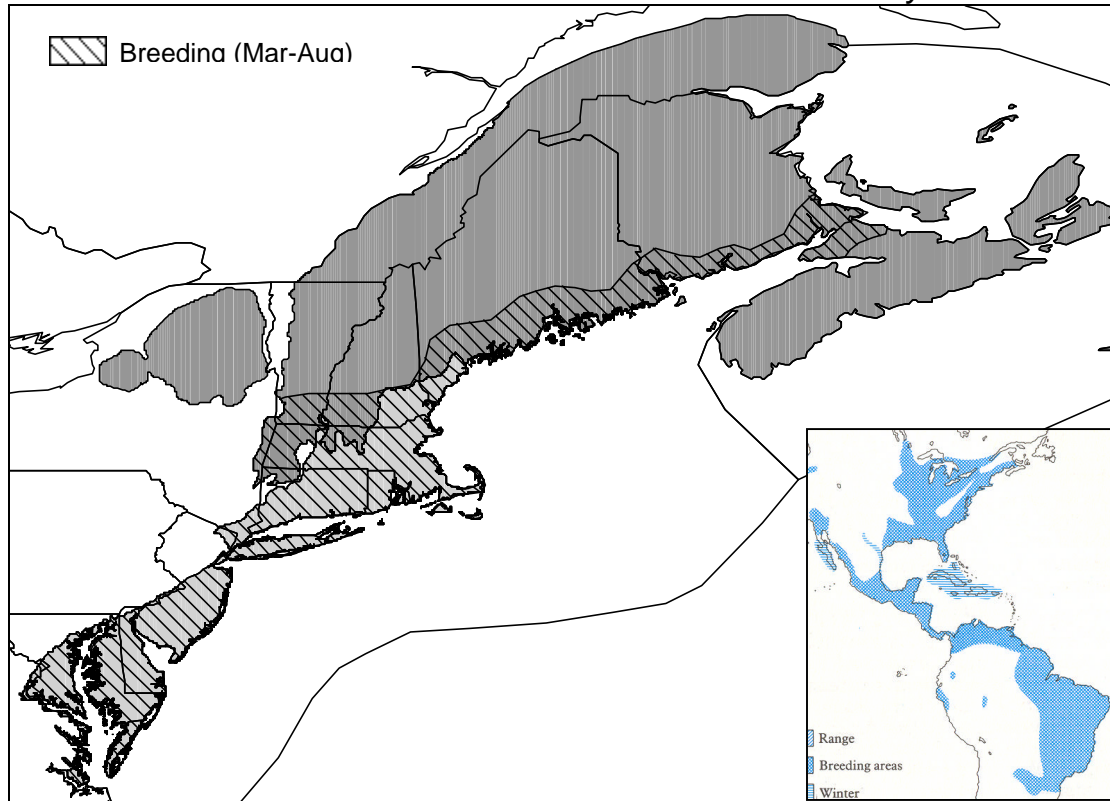


LEAST BITTERN

Ixobrychus exilis exilis



Regional Occurrence (BCRs 14, 30)

- Distribution: breeds in region
- Habitats used: fresh-water marshes with tall vegetation; also brackish marshes and mangrove swamps

PIF BD=2; PIF ND=1

Regional Abundance

- 1990s population size: US—unknown; CAN—22
- Historical population size: unknown
- % change in regional population: unknown

PIF RA=4; PIF PT=3

Regional Threats

- Destruction of wetland habitat is greatest threat; invasive vegetation; also parasites
- Collision with vehicles, barbed-wire fences, and transmission wires
- Siltation from erosion of farmlands and run-off containing insecticides may degrade nesting sites and reduce food supply

PIF TB=3; PIF TN=3

Conservation Status: Abundance (b=breeding, nb=nonbreeding, t=total individuals) and Conservation Rank

Global	North America	BCR 14	BCR 30	Mid-Atlantic	S. New England	Gulf of Maine	Maritimes
?	128,000t	?b	?b	?b	?b	?b	22b
IUCN- Not Evaluated	NAWCP- Moderate Concern	Moderate (PI=?)	Moderate (PI=?)	NJ-S3B; DE-S1B; MD-S2S3B; VA-S2S3B, S3N	NY-S3B, S1N; CT-S2B, S2N; RI-S2B, S2N; MA-S1; VT-S2B, S2N	MA-S1; NH-S1; ME-S2B NB-S1S2B NS-S1B	QC-S3; NB-S1S2B PE- no info; NS-S1B

Conservation Needs: *Sustainability:* 3.0 average young hatched / nest; *Density and Foraging Habitat:* 0.37 calling males / ha; 0.5 calling birds / ha NY; 1-15 nests / ha; in daytime, frequents tall, dense stands of emergent plants along deep, open waters; builds platforms of bent reeds; freshwater and brackish marshes with dense, tall growths of aquatic or semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with clumps of woody vegetation and open water; prefers hemi-marsh, equal parts emergent vegetation and open water; occasionally in salt marshes and mangrove swamps; found at sites with high marshbird diversity; *Issues:* Preservation and improvement of wetland habitats are the most urgent management needs, as well as protection from chemical contamination, siltation, eutrophication, and other forms of pollution.; *Needs:* ID migration routes, stopover sites, important wintering areas; breeding/wintering habitat use and needs; verification of survey technique accuracy; needs monitoring; *Population Goals:* census; *Habitat Goals:* no net loss of wetland habitats, especially those with equal proportions emergent vegetation and water